REMARKS

This amendment is being filed in response to the non-final Office Action dated May 14, 2008. By this Response, claim 26 are amended and claims 27 and 28 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 29 and 30 are newly presented. Claims 15-28 are withdrawn. Claims 1-14 were cancelled. No new matter is added. Claims 26, 29 and 30 are active for examination.

The Office Action

The Office Action rejected claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chen et al. (U.S. Publication 2002/0122137). Claims 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Wharton et al. (U.S. Patent 5,831,664). The rejections are either moot or overcome in view of the amendments and/or remarks presented herein.

Independent claim 26, as amended, describes a video display device for (1) displaying an image extracted from a data frame received from a server for distributing images or another video display device located at upstream side along a distribution path of said data frame, (2) forwarding the received data frame to one of other video display devices located at downstream side along the distribution path of said images, and (3) communicating at least one user terminal. The video display device includes (A) a first communication interface for receiving, from said server or said another video display device at upstream side, a data frame generated by said server, (B) a second communication interface for communicating with said one of the other video display devices located at the downstream side of the said distribution path in operation, (C) a third communication interface for communicating with said user terminal, and (D) a data frame processing unit. The data frame (feature A1) includes a destination information block, first image data of an image to be displayed by at least one of said video display devices and

second image data of an image to be distributed to said user terminal or at least one user terminal coupled to any one of the other video display devices located along said distribution path. The destination information block (feature A2) comprises a plurality of bits each corresponding to the video display device or one of the other video display devices located along said distribution path. At least one of the plurality of bits including flag information for designating a destination video display device of the data frame specified by said server. The data frame processing unit (D) is configured to (D1) forward said data frame to the downstream of said distribution path through said second communication interface after storing the data frame in a data storage so that the image reproduced from said first image data is displayed on the video display device and said second image data is distributed to said user terminal through said third communication interface when the bit corresponding to the video display device within said destination information block includes said flag information; and (D2) forward said data frame to the downstream of said distribution path through said second communication interface without storing the data frame in said data storage when the bit corresponding to the video display device does not include said flag information.

The Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) Is Overcome

The anticipation rejection of claim 26 is overcome because Chen fails to disclose features (A), (A1), (B), (D1) and (D2) of claim 26.

Chen proposes a television companion device (TCD) that enables each user viewing a television broadcast to obtain customized information selected specifically for that user. The TCD receives a signal from a television (TV). The TV receives by a TV broadcast antenna 101 a broadcast signal of a plurality of program streams 186 on which various information streams 185, such as, audio, video, data, graphic, still image or animation are multiplexed in the form of

packets. The TV can broadcast all received streams 185 to all the TCSs through a TV comm antenna 109.

As stated in claim 1 of Chen, the signal received by the TCD has a plurality of streams split from a broadcast signal and each stream is converted to at least one packet having a destination address. The TCD compares addresses in the packet with its address previously assigned in order to determine which packets are destined for the TCD. Accordingly, as stared in paragraph [0018], the TCD can obtain information different than or unrelated to that displayed on the TV. The information displayed on each TCD may be video clips or video programs, audio clips or audio programs, data, graphical images, and or animations.

In the Chen disclosure, a system comprises a TV and a plurality of TCDs. Contrary to the assertion in the Office Action, the TV in the Chen disclosure does **not** correspond to a video display device of claim 26 because the TV does not have a second communication interface (feature B) for communicating with other video display devices, as described in claim 26.

Furthermore, in claim 26, the server changes the bit pattern of flag information in the destination information block (A2) in order to selectively designate one or more video display devices to which the same data frame destined. Chen fails to teach or suggest this feature.

Chen also fails to disclose features (A), (D1) and (D2) as described in claim 26.

The other cited document, Wharton, does not alleviate the deficiencies of Chen. Wharton intends to improve a remote controller for use with an interactive terminal such as a TV receiver. According to Wharton, a system in which a remote or mobile control interface can be dynamically reconfigured to correspond with an application operated on the interactive terminal is proposed. As stated in claim 1 of Wharton, Wharton's system includes a set-top transceiver device (Set-top box 16) for providing a synchronization signal to a mobile interface device

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(remote controller 12) and the interactive terminal 14, and a remote central processing unit (server 18) for generating the synchronization signal in response to user input at the mobile interface device. The synchronization signal includes a first display control signal for controlling the display of the mobile interface device and a second display control signal for controlling the display of the interactive terminal so as to dynamically reconfigure the mobile interface device in response to the user input signal to display data corresponding to an application associated with the interactive terminal.

In the Wharton's system, the mobile interface device (user terminal) directly communicates with the remote central processing unit (server 18) through the set-top transceiver device (Set-top box 16), without communicating with the interactive terminal 14. The interactive terminal 14 in Wharton does not correspond to the video display device as described in claim 26 because Wharton apparently fails to teach features (A), (A2), (B), (D), (D1) and (D2), as described in claim 26.

Since neither Chen nor Wharton meets every limitation of claim 26, the cited documents cannot support a prima facie case of anticipation. The anticipation rejection is untenable and should be withdrawn. Favorable reconsideration of claim 26 is respectfully requested.

The Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Is Moot

By the Response, claims 27 and 28 are cancelled. Therefore, the obviousness rejection of claims 27 and 28 is now moot.

New Claims 29 and 30 Are Patentable

Claims 29 and 30 depend on claim 26 and incorporate every limitation thereof. Since claim 26 is patentable, claims 29 and 30 also are patentable by virtue of their dependencies.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons given above, Applicants believe that this application is in condition for allowance, and request that the Examiner give the application favorable reconsideration and permit it to issue as a patent. If the Examiner believes that the application can be put in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representatives listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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WDC99 1604543-2.062758.0114

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